

## City of Morgan Hill

### City Council's Policies and Goals for 2005

Adopted March 2, 2005

#### **City Budget**

Policy: Council will periodically survey community awareness and opinions on municipal services and financing options, and use the information in long range budget planning.

Policy: The Council has previously adopted the Sustainable Budget Strategy that calls for new revenue sources as well as permanent budget reductions.

*Goal: By April 2005, the Financial Policy Committee will report the results of a statistically significant random sample of Morgan Hill voters on issues relating to the Sustainable Budget Strategy. Thereafter, the Council will adopt an approach to conducting a community wide conversation about the appropriate level and mix of city services and a strategy to finance them. The objective of the community conversation is to develop consensus on what tax measures to place before the voters in November 2006 or earlier.*

Policy: Council endorses a funding strategy that increases the importance of user fees for financing those services that have less than a community wide benefit.

Policy: Council adopts a policy of using a portion of General Fund reserves for investments to “save or gain”; specifically, the portion of General Fund reserves that is less than the targeted 25% level and more than the absolute lower limit of 10% may be used for investments with the potential for very high returns, either through an expanded tax base or reduced operating costs.

*Goal: By May 15, 2005, the City Manager will prepare recommendations for possible investments to “save or gain” in accordance with the above policy.*

*Goal: By December 2005, the Financial Policy Committee will develop recommendations to be implemented after the Sustainable Budget has been achieved. Such recommendations should address the use of reserves that might exceed the targeted 25% level, and should address the need to replenish reserves that might fall below the targeted 25% level.*

*Goal: By June 2005, conclude labor negotiations with a contract that recognizes both the Sustainable Budget Strategy and the importance of employees to realizing the Council's and community's goals.*

## **Redevelopment**

*Goal: By November 2005, the City Manager and City Attorney will report on options for amending the Redevelopment Plan including consideration of the "tax increment cap" and implementation strategies for addressing remaining blight.*

## **Economic Development**

**Policy:** Council will encourage new private investment in jobs and tax base through implementation of the adopted Economic Development Strategy.

*Goal: By December 2005, The Utilities and Environment Committee should study the potential of "community aggregation" of electric power demand for the purpose of reducing the cost of electricity for Morgan Hill businesses and residents.*

*Goal: By April 2005, the Community and Economic Development Committee will evaluate the adopted Auto Dealership Strategy and recommend revisions, if appropriate, and suggest a strategy for implementation.*

*Goal: By April 2005, the full Council will agendaize the "Economic Development Inhibitors" identified in the FY 05 Budget, and consider changes in policies or procedures.*

## **Organizing for Public Policy**

Policy: Council supports a values based system to guide ethical conduct by elected officials, appointed committees and staff.

*Goal: By April 2005, Council will adopt a values based approach to be immediately applicable to the Council and citizen committees. By July 2005, the City Manager will report on any appropriate revisions to existing administrative policies that would bring them into alignment with a values based approach.*

Policy: Council appreciates the work of its citizen appointed committees and commissions, and will provide support and guidance through the review of annual work plans to be submitted by each group.

*Goal: By February 2005, Council will consider the City Manager's report and recommendations for reorganizing the Council's own committee system, and make appointments to five new standing committees.*

*Goal: By December 2005, Council will evaluate the new committee system and be prepared to discuss any revisions at the 2006 goal setting retreat.*

*Goal: Prior to the 2006 goal setting retreat, Councilmember Grzan will provide a report on the "pros and cons" of becoming a Charter City.*

## **Civic Engagement**

*Goal: By July 2005, the Mayor will suggest a process for building community consensus on community wide goals for the future, while recognizing the need to avoid confusion with other initiatives.*

## **Medical Services**

Policy: To ensure accountability for the \$500,000 allocated and to monitor implementation of the Medical Services Policies, Council requests the Morgan Hill Community Health Foundation to provide semi annual reports to the public.

## **Schools**

Policy: Council supports a role for city government in preserving the K-12 public education system.

*Goal: By September 2005, the City/School Liaison Committee should prepare recommendations for a written policy outlining objectives, roles and responsibilities for a more formal City-School partnership.*

## **Regional Soccer Complex**

*Goal: By April 2005, Council will receive a written business proposal from sponsors of a new regional soccer complex near Sobrato High School, and determine the City's or RDA's role.*

## **Fire Services**

*Goal: Include funding in the FY 06 budget for a feasibility study and recommendations for transitioning to a coordinated and integrated system of fire and emergency medical services for South County.*

## **High Speed Rail**

*Goal: By September 2005, the Regional Planning and Transportation Committee will recommend a position for Morgan Hill to adopt on high speed rail including alignment and station locations.*

## **Environmental Issues**

*Goal: By April 2005, the Planning Commission will submit a work plan which will include developing recommendations for integrating creeks and streams into subdivisions.*

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